

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.-7. (canceled).

8. (withdrawn): Apparatus for producing folded printing carriers - folding coupons (10) - by virtue of non-folded blanks (25) being cut off from a material web (11) and folded in the region of a folding subassembly (26), characterized in that the (non-folded) material web (11) can be moved past at least one glue subassembly (20, 21) for the purpose of transferring regions of glue (18, 19) to the material web (11), it being possible for the glue subassembly (20, 21) to be controlled, in accordance with printed marks on the material web (11), via at least one printed-mark reader (22), and for blanks (25) provided with regions of glue (18, 19) then to be cut off from the material web (11) in a precise position in the region of a severing subassembly (24) and fed to the folding subassembly (26).

9. (withdrawn): Apparatus according to Claim 8, characterized in that the - double-width - material web (11), following the glue subassemblies (20, 21), can be conveyed through a folding unit (63), it being possible for the material web (11) to be folded in a double layer in the region of the folding unit (63), with two web legs (50, 51) being formed along the borders in the process.

10. (withdrawn): Apparatus according to Claim 8, characterized in that the folding subassembly (26) is followed directly by an arrangement (34) for the post-treatment of the folding coupons (10), having a heating station (35) for transmitting heat to the folding coupons (10) and for pressing the folding legs (27, 28, 29) of the folding coupons (10) together.

11. (withdrawn): Apparatus according to Claim 10, characterized in that a severing station (36) is formed for severing double-width folding coupons (10) following the heating station (35), the station having at least one circulating, circular severing blade (44) on a blade roller (45), and a mating roller (46).

12. (withdrawn): Apparatus according to Claim 10, characterized in that the arrangement (34) for the post-treatment of the folding coupons (10) has a plurality of belt conveyors (37, 38, 39) for transporting the folding coupons (10), the belt conveyors (37, 38, 39) being spaced apart from one another and having heating elements (42) arranged between them for the purpose of transmitting heat to the folding coupons (10).

13. (withdrawn): Apparatus according to Claim 12, characterized in that the folding coupons (10), in the region of the heating station (35), can be transported between conveying strands (40, 41) of the belt conveyors (37, 38, 39) for the purpose of transferring pressure to the folding coupons (10).

14. (withdrawn): Apparatus according to Claim 9, characterized in that the material web (11) can be directed through a stamping element (56) in order for transversely directed scores (61) to be provided in accordance with folding lines of the folding coupons (10), the stamping element (56) being arranged to follow the folding unit (63) for producing double-layered material webs (11).

15. (new): A process for producing multiple-folded printing carriers made of thin material, namely folding coupons (10) made of paper, resulting in the formation of at least two folding legs (27, 28) which are connected to one another by adhesive bonding by areas of glue or regions of glue (18, 19) applied to the folding legs (27, 28), **characterized by** the following steps:

a) areas of glue or regions of glue (18, 19) comprising hot glue (hotmelt) are applied to a material web (11) for producing the folding coupons (10) at areas corresponding to the positioning of the folding coupon (10) on the folding legs (27, 28),

b) the material web (11) is chosen to have a width that is double the width of a folding coupon (10),

c) blanks (25) having double the width of a folding coupon (10) are cut off from the material web (11) provided with set regions of glue (18, 19) and are fed to a folding subassembly (26) in which the double-width blanks (15) are folded to correspond to the fold of the folding coupons (10),

d) once the double-width blanks (25) have been folded, the regions of glue (18, 19) are activated by the supply of heat and the folding legs (27, 28) are connected to one another by pressure, and

e) the folded double-width blanks (25) are then severed in the longitudinal direction in order to produce in each case two folding coupons (10) lying adjacent to one another.

16. (new): The process according to Claim 15, characterized by the following features:

a) the double-width material web (11) has a double-layered configuration,
b) two marginal web legs (50, 51) are folded to cover a central region of the material web such that the material web (11) has a double-layer configuration in the region of the folded web legs (50, 51) with folding edges at both borders of the material web.

17. (new): The process according to Claim 16, characterized in that the web legs (50, 51) of the material web (11) are spaced apart from one another by a small distance to form between the web legs (50, 51) a longitudinal gap (52) running approximately in the longitudinal center plane of the material web (11), with the severing cut for separating a double-width folded blank (25) is executed in the region of the longitudinal gap (52).

18. (new): The process according to Claim 16, characterized in that the double-width folding coupons (10) produced from a two-layered blank (25) have two regions of glue (18, 19) for each folding coupon (10), specifically at opposite sides of the material web (11).

19. (new): The process according to Claim 15, characterized in that the application of the regions of glue (18, 19) to the continuous material web (11) by the glue subassembly (20, 21) can be controlled by printed-mark readers in accordance with printed marks on the material web (11) .

20. (new): The process according to Claim 15, characterized in that the folded double-width blanks with the applied regions of glue (18, 19) are transported between belt conveyors (37, 38) in the region of a heating station (35) during the transmission of heat.

21. (new): The process according to Claim 15, characterized in that transversely directed scores (61) are applied by a stamping element (56) to the material web (11) during continuous transport, said scores corresponding to the positioning of folding lines of the blank (25) to be severed from the material web (11) or of the folding coupon (10) to be produced therefrom.